IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-18 (Cancelled).

- 19. (Previously Presented) A hybrid protein comprising at least a portion of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:3; or a protein having secondary differences or limited variations in the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:3; and polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is able to induce an immune response in an animal.
- 20. (Currently Amended) A method for making the hybrid protein of claim 19, comprising culturing a cell containing a recombinant DNA molecule encoding said hybrid protein, under conditions suitable for expression of said DNA molecule; and collecting said hybrid protein, wherein said.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 20, wherein said cell is a bacterial cell.
 - 22. (Canceled)
 - 22. (Canceled)
- 23. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising the recombinant microorganism of Claim 22 29.

Application No. 10/720,192

Reply to Office Action of May 26, 2004

24. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of the recombinant microorganism of Claim 22 29 and a pharmaceutically compatible diluent or adjuvant.

25. (Previously Presented) A method of inducing an immune response in an animal, comprising administering the hybrid protein of Claim 19 to said animal in an amount effective to induce an immune response.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein said animal is a human.

27. (Previously Presented) A method of inducing an immune response in an animal, comprising administering the recombinant microorganism of Claim 23 to said animal in an amount effective to induce an immune response.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 27, wherein said animal is a human.

- 29. (New) A recombinant microorganism, which produces the hybrid protein of Claim 19.
- 30. (New) The recombinant microorganism of Claim 29, wherein the microorganism is *Mycobacterium bovis* BCG.